

## PROCLAMATION

**WHEREAS**, the French explorer Samuel de Champlain used the port of Honfleur in Normandy, France many times, including when he departed aboard the *Don-de-Dieu* in the spring of 1608 to establish the settlement of Québec on the St. Lawrence River, founding New France; and

**WHEREAS**, in July 1609 Champlain – guided by his Algonquin, Huron, and Montagnais allies – traveled the interconnecting waterways of the St. Lawrence and Richelieu Rivers into Lake Champlain; and

**WHEREAS**, Champlain's journals from this voyage give us the first written account of the lake and the rivers; and

**WHEREAS**, Champlain used an astrolabe, an ancient navigation device that he used to create the first maps of Lake Champlain and other parts of New France; and

**WHEREAS**, the United States and France have been allies in war and partners in trade for more than 200 years; and

**WHEREAS**, two in five Vermonters claim French heritage, and Franco-American culture was a focus of Vermont's Quadricentennial commemoration of Champlain's 1609 exploration of the lake that bears his name; and

**WHEREAS**, the Quadricentennial led to a stronger association between Vermont and France, most significantly realized in the relationship between Burlington and Honfleur; and

**WHEREAS**, the City of Burlington established the Honfleur Sister City Committee on March 21, 2012, and members of the Committee have represented Burlington in visiting Honfleur; and

**WHEREAS**, a Friendship Agreement between Burlington and Honfleur was signed at Burlington City Hall on July 3, 2013, during the Honfleur delegation's visit to Vermont; and

**WHEREAS**, the Honfleur delegation visited sites throughout the greater Burlington area, including the Shelburne Museum; and

**WHEREAS**, the Shelburne Boy Scouts Troop 602 will participate in the Omaha Beach Camporee to commemorate the 70th anniversary of the D-Day invasion in Normandy on April 25-27, 2014; and

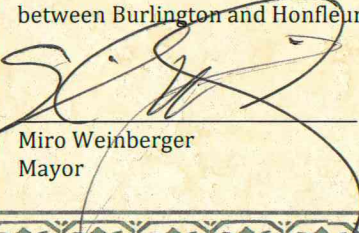
**WHEREAS**, in addition to visiting Omaha Beach, the Scouts will travel to Honfleur on April 23-25, to better understand the connections between Shelburne, Burlington, and the rest of the world; and

**WHEREAS**, the Boy Scouts will travel with the astrolabe carried by a delegation of young Vermonters who traveled to Honfleur on behalf of the Vermont Council on World Affairs in 2009;

**NOW THEREFORE**, I, Miro Weinberger, Mayor of the City of Burlington, do hereby congratulate the Boy Scouts of Troop 602 in their efforts to learn about Burlington's Sister City, Honfleur, and proclaim the voyage of Boy Scouts Troop 602 to be the

### FIRST OFFICIAL YOUTH EXCHANGE

between Burlington and Honfleur, in hopes that it will build upon the friendship between our two great Cities.

  
Miro Weinberger  
Mayor

